

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 ERDA-05 FEA-01

ACDA-05 IO-10 L-03 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 SS-15 SAJ-01

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R 132034Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

038.tTO SECSTATE WASHDC 0392

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

0040.tAMEMBASSY TAIPEI

??(?? AMEMBASSY LONDON

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DEPT FOR OES

E.O. 11652: N/A

?? ?? TAGS: TECH

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR EXPORTS AND PROLIFERATION

1. THE LE MONDE DATED 8-9-10 JUNE 1975 CARRIED A
FRONT PAGE ARTICLE "THE TIME OF PROLIFERATION" BY
?? ?? DOMINIQUE VERGUESE. THE ARTICLE DESCRIBES THE EX-
051.tPORTS AND PROPOSED EXPORTS OF NUCLEAR
tEQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PROLI-
FERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE,
?? ?? THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THIS SUBJECT HAS BEEN
TREATED IN SUCH DEPTH IN THE FRENCH PRESS, AT LEAST
OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS. THE AUTHORESS, WHO WAS A
?? ??hPROTEGE OF THE DECEASED NUCLEAR EXPERT NICOLAS VICHNEY,
TOLD US THAT SHE HAD FOR A LONG TIME BEEN PLANNING TO
DO SUCH AN ARTICLE AND THAT SHE HAD ALWAYS FOUND IT
STRANGE THAT NO ONE IN FRANCE WRITES ABOUT THIS
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SUBJECT.

2. VERGUESE SINGLED OUT THE U.S. FOR PRAISE FOR
ITS STAND ON NUCLEAR EXPORTS: "ONLY THE U.S. HAS

BEEN FULLY CONSCIENTIOUS OF ITS
RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE AREA OF PROLIFERATION."
SHE CRITICIZED THE FRENCH, CANADIANS, AND GERMANS:
"PROFITING FROM THE ABSENCE OF THE AMERICANS
ON THE MARKET, FRANCE, WEST GERMANY, AND CANADA SELL
A LITTLE EVERYWHERE, CONTENTING THEMSELVES ONLY WITH
THE REGULATIONS OF THE VIENNA AGENCY (IAEA)."

3. THE MFA DIRECTOR OF NUCLEAR AFFAIRS TOOK STRONG
EXCEPTION TO MANY OF THE POINTS RAISED BY THE
ARTICLE. FOR EXAMPLE, HE CLAIMED THAT THE AMERICAN
FIRMS WERE JUST AS ACTIVE AS THEIR RIVALS IN BIDDING
TO SELL NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT. IN ADDITION, HE FELT
THAT THE IAEA SAFEGUARDS ARE ALREADY QUITE EXTENSIVE.
HE WAS SURE THAT NO ONE AT THE QUAI D'ORSAY PROVIDED
MS. VERGUESE WITH HER BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND,
WITH A MIXTURE OF PRIDE AND EXASPERATION, THAT LE
MONDE WAS INDEPENDENT OF GOF CONTROL. HE BELIEVED
THAT THE AUTHORESS MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN HER MATERIAL
FROM "AMERICAN COMPANIES," OBVIOUSLY A REFERENCE TO
WESTINGHOUSE OR G.E.(COMMENT: JUST ABOUT ALL THE
INFO VERGUESE USED WAS PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE). HE ADDED
THAT "MANY YEARS AGO," A FRENCH FIRM HAD PARTICIPATED
WITH SEVERAL OTHER INTERNATIONAL FIRMS IN BUILDING
THE LAST STAGE OF A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT IN
TAIWAN (FOR CONVERSION TO METALLIC PLUTONIUM). TO
HIS KNOWLEDGE, TAIWAN DID NOT POSSESS OTHER STAGES,
NOR THE CAPACITY TO BUILD THEM.

4. COPIES OF ARTICLE ARE BEING FORWARDED TO DEPT AND
TO EMBASSIES BONN, OTTAWA, AND TAIWAN.
RUSH

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